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REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested.

By way of the present amendment, the specification is amended to update information of the related applications.

Claims 1-17 are canceled. New claims 18-30 are added. Accordingly, claims 18-30 are pending.

Claim 18 recites a financial document processing system comprising a financial document processing transport including (i) means defining a document transport path along which financial documents can be transported, and (ii) a first display for allowing an operator to view an operator message which relates to an exception condition which has occurred along the document transport path. The financial document processing system further comprises a transport controller including (i) means for controlling operation of the transport, and (ii) means for generating an operator message when an exception condition occurs along the document transport path. The financial document processing system further comprises a transmitter interface including (i) means for receiving operator messages from the transport controller, and (ii) means for wirelessly transmitting operator messages. The financial document processing system further comprises a portable control unit which is separate from the transport and which can be carried by an operator between a first location in which the operator is able to view the first display on the transport and a second location in which the operator is unable to view the first display on the transport, wherein the portable control unit includes (i) means for wirelessly receiving operator messages from the transmitter interface, and (ii) a second display for allowing the operator to view an operator message which relates to an exception condition which has occurred along the document transport path without having to move from the second location to the first location to view the operator message on the first display.

None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests a financial document processing system comprising, inter alia, a portable control unit which is separate from the transport and which can be carried by an operator between a first location in which the operator is able to view the first display on the transport and a second location in

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which the operator is unable to view the first display on the transport, wherein the portable control unit includes (i) means for wirelessly receiving operator messages from the transmitter interface, and (ii) a second display for allowing the operator to view an operator message which relates to an exception condition which has occurred along the document transport path without having to move from the second location to the first location to view the operator message on the first display. Thus, claim 18 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 19 depends from claim 18 and is allowable for the reasons claim 18 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 19 further recites that the portable control unit further includes (iii) means for receiving command inputs from the operator, and (iv) means for transmitting command messages which are based upon the command inputs to the transport to control operation of the transport. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 19 in combination with the structure recited in claim 18. Thus, claim 19 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 20 depends from claim 19 and is allowable for the reasons claim 19 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 20 further recites that the portable control unit further includes (v) means for receiving a broadcasted message advising that the transport is available, (vi) means for enabling the operator to select the transport, and (vii) means for exchanging authenticating information with the transport to establish a communication session with the transport. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 20 in combination with the structure recited in claim 19. Thus, claim 20 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 21 depends from claim 20 and is allowable for the reasons claim 20 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 21 further recites that the transport further includes (iii) means for creating a session identifier upon establishing a

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communication session with the portable control unit. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 21 in combination with the structure recited in claim 20. Thus, claim 21 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 22 depends from claim 21 and is allowable for the reasons claim 21 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 22 further recites that the session identifier is included in all messages exchanged between the transport and the portable control unit. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 22 in combination with the structure recited in claim 21. Thus, claim 22 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 23 depends from claim 22 and is allowable for the reasons claim 22 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 23 further recites that operator messages issued by the transport controller are directed both to the first display of the transport and the second display of the portable control unit. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 23 in combination with the structure recited in claim 22. Thus, claim 23 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 24 depends from claim 23 and is allowable for the reasons claim 23 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 24 further recites that the transmitter interface uses omnidirectional RF communication to transmit operator messages. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 24 in combination with the structure recited in claim 23. Thus, claim 24 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 25 recites a method of operating a financial document processing transport. The method comprises establishing a communication session with a portable operator control

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unit which can be carried by an operator between one location of the transport and another location of the transport during operation of the transport, wirelessly transmitting operator messages to the portable control unit when an exception condition associated with the transport occurs, and wirelessly receiving commands from the portable control unit when an operator responds to operator messages which have been wirelessly transmitted to the portable control unit.

None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests a method of operating a financial document processing transport, wherein the method comprises establishing a communication session with a portable operator control unit which can be carried by an operator between one location of the transport and another location of the transport during operation of the transport, wirelessly transmitting operator messages to the portable control unit when an exception condition associated with the transport occurs, and wirelessly receiving commands from the portable control unit when an operator responds to operator messages which have been wirelessly transmitted to the portable control unit. Thus, claim 25 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 26 recites a method of operating a financial document processing transport to handle an exception condition which occurs during operation of the transport. The method comprises generating an operator message which is indicative of the exception condition, displaying the operator message on a first display which is on the transport to allow an operator view the operator message when the operator is in a first location which is in the vicinity of the first display on the transport, and wirelessly transmitting the operator message to a second display which is on a portable control unit which has been carried by the operator from the first location to a second location in which the operator is unable to view the operator message on the first display on the transport, and thereby to allow the operator to view the operator message on the second display on the portable control unit without having to move back to the first location to view the operator message on the first display on the transport.

None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests a method of operating a financial document processing transport to handle an exception

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condition which occurs during operation of the transport, wherein the method comprises generating an operator message which is indicative of the exception condition, displaying the operator message on a first display which is on the transport to allow an operator view the operator message when the operator is in a first location which is in the vicinity of the first display on the transport, and wirelessly transmitting the operator message to a second display which is on a portable control unit which has been carried by the operator from the first location to a second location in which the operator is unable to view the operator message on the first display on the transport, and thereby to allow the operator to view the operator message on the second display on the portable control unit without having to move back to the first location to view the operator message on the first display on the transport. Thus, claim 26 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 27 depends from claim 26 and is allowable for the reasons claim 26 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 27 further recites receiving a command message from the portable control unit when the operator issues commands based upon the operator viewing the operator message displayed on the second display on the portable control unit. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 27 in combination with the structure recited in claim 26. Thus, claim 27 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 28 recites a financial document processing system comprising a plurality of financial document processing transports in the vicinity of one another. Each transport includes means for generating an availability message which includes a unique identifier when the transport is not engaged in a communication session. The financial document processing system further comprises first transmitter means including (i) means for processing messages including availability messages generated by each transport, and (ii) wirelessly broadcasting the messages. The financial document processing system further comprises a plurality of portable handheld operator control units in the vicinity of one another and within radio frequency of the first transmitter means. Each control unit includes (i)

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means for receiving messages which have been wirelessly broadcasted from the first transmitter means, (ii) means for generating a display listing available transports based upon messages which have been generated by transports, (iii) means for enabling an operator to select from the listing of available transports a desired transport with which to request a communication session, and (iv) means for wirelessly transmitting a selection message which is indicative of the transport which has been selected by the operator and with which the operator desires to request a communication session. The financial document processing system further comprises second transmitter means including (i) means for receiving messages including selection messages from each portable control unit, and (ii) means for directing messages including selection messages to the appropriate transport.

None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests a financial document processing system comprising a plurality of financial document processing transports in the vicinity of one another, each transport including means for generating an availability message which includes a unique identifier when the transport is not engaged in a communication session, first transmitter means including (i) means for processing messages including availability messages generated by each transport, and (ii) wirelessly broadcasting the messages, a plurality of portable handheld operator control units in the vicinity of one another and within radio frequency of the first transmitter means, each control unit including (i) means for receiving messages which have been wirelessly broadcasted from the first transmitter means, (ii) means for generating a display listing available transports based upon messages which have been generated by transports, (iii) means for enabling an operator to select from the listing of available transports a desired transport with which to request a communication session, and (iv) means for wirelessly transmitting a selection message which is indicative of the transport which has been selected by the operator and with which the operator desires to request a communication session, and second transmitter means including (i) means for receiving messages including selection messages from each portable control unit, and (ii) means for directing messages including selection messages to the appropriate transport. Thus, claim 28 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

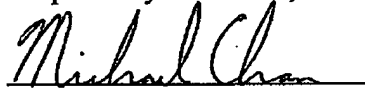
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Claim 29 depends from claim 28 and is allowable for the reasons claim 28 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 29 further recites that the first and second transmitter means comprise a transmitter interface and a transmitter server connected to the transmitter interface to control operation of the transmitter interface in response to commands from transports. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 29 in combination with the structure recited in claim 28. Thus, claim 29 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 30 depends from claim 28 and is allowable for the reasons claim 28 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 30 further recites that each transport includes means for providing an availability message when the transport is already engaged in a communication session with one portable control unit and the transport is available to engage in an additional session with a different portable control unit. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 30 in combination with the structure recited in claim 28. Thus, claim 30 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Chan
Reg. No. 33,663
Attorney for Applicant

NCR Corporation, Law Department, WHQ4
1700 S. Patterson Blvd., Dayton, OH 45479-0001
Tel. No. 937-445-4956/Fax No. 937-445-6794

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